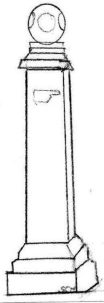


WILTON COMMUNITY CENTER'S

The e-Blinking Light

December 2016 edition

Seasonal events by and for your neighbors – Come and join the fun!



Light 'em up and deck 'em out!

We've gathered a sleigh full of seasonal treats for just about everybody's enjoyment ('cept Scrooge!) Put down your knitting, your book and your broom, come out and join the seasonal festivities – and don't forget to support all our local merchants!

Deck The Halls

On Friday, December 9th from 6-9 p.m. join the Wilton Main Street Association and downtown merchants who are sponsoring a **tree lighting ceremony** with Santa in the Main Street Park. Or, stroll next door and watch **taffy pulling** with the jolly old elf while he's at Nelson's Candies (and maybe get a tasty little something?). Join **carolers in the park** (c'mon, you already know the words), swing by the **Farmers' Market** in the Town Hall and sway to the live music; (if you decide to do a little dance here and there, we won't mind.) And for more fabulous eye-candy, there'll be a **festival of 14 trees** decorated by local merchants in our beautiful Library rotunda. The Wilton Community Center invites you add *your* touch to the magic of the events by **decorating your own luminaria** (candlelit bags), during that time up in the Library in preparation for 'WinterLight'. If you get your card stamped by all the participating organizations, you'll be entered in a raffle for an exciting prize! Cards will be available at various locations around town.

Holiday Centerpiece Workshop

On Saturday, December 10th, designer Sandy Lafleur will walk you thru the process of making your own **delightful centerpieces**. Come to the Wilton Library from 10-11:30 a.m. Bring your creativity and while sipping hot cider and listening to music you'll learn the steps to fashioning long-lasting native greenery, candles, bows and holiday decorations into something that could grace your Holiday table. \$6 covers the workshop and supplies, but if you have a "special" item (or greens from your yard) that you want to add, by all means bring it. Be sure any baskets you bring have waterproof bases. Because this will be a popular event, class size is limited to the first 15 reindeer who register with Pat Fickett at the library: 654-2581. On Dancer! On Prancer! On Pinecone and Jingles!

WinterLight

Beginning at dusk on Sunday, December 18th, a breathtaking display of **400 luminaria** will stretch along Main Street from Works of Heart Florist to the Second Congregational Church. Once you've blown out your camera chip with 10 zillion photos of the display, climb those well-worn stairs to the annual showing of '**It's a Wonderful Life**' at the Town Hall Theater - a yearly benefit for the Open Cupboard Food Pantry. When you leave our famous theater, you'll be greeted by a magical display of light on one of the darkest nights of the year. This year, folks from Local Share will have set up a **Meditation Spiral** in the Main Street Park, a new addition to this lovely and quiet event. This night is co-sponsored by the Wilton Main Street Association and Wilton Community Center, with help from Local Share and those who want to get into the real feel of the season ---could that include you?

What Excitements Does The New Year Hold – or - What’s on the Docket for ‘17?

Bring the family or make it a very special date. The 10 towns in the Souhegan Valley Watershed are coming together to learn, and act on issues and topics around socially and environmentally responsible living. Not your typical Earth Day event, **Souhegan Sustainability Fair** features presentations, exhibits, demos, workshops, entertainment and plenty of food. A special competition is open to all students of the Valley towns to do a 10-minute presentation on their idea of “How to Protect Our Planet Earth”. Winning ideas and their authors will get to bring their proposals to the NH State Legislature and *get it done*. The Wilton Conservation Commission and the Wilton Energy Committee are sponsoring and the town of Wilton is hosting the fair at the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative High School on Earth Day, April 22, 2017 from 10-4. The public is invited for free to this family-friendly event which is expected to have an impact on how our area stewards the environment. In the day-long event an exhibition hall will house products and services from green vendors; Birds of a Feather are collaborative sessions of 10 towns to share best conservation practices; breakout sessions, demos and workshops (from building bee boxes to a bike clinic), high-level speakers, legislators, a café area, entertainment for music & dance. The SSF Committee would like to answer your questions, ideas or sign you up to help out. Get out the crayons, Martha, and scrawl the date (4-22-17) but contact us by December 21st if you’re interested: souhegansustainabilityfair@gmail.com. You’ll love this one, Wilton. It’s in line with NH’s conservation efforts and respect for the environment.

Let’s Be ‘Civic’ About It...

The WCC is working to bring the highly respected professor, John Greabe of Constitutional Law from the UNH School of Law and well-known Civics teacher from Milford, Dave Alcox (“We The People”), to Town in February 2017 for a **public forum on the U.S. Constitution**. Since Civics have, by and large, been omitted from many classrooms and the media, many people – especially junior and senior high school students – have been looking for an explanation of how our U.S. government’s most important document serves the people. Pocket Constitutions will be handed out at the event. Location and date TBA but keep an eye on the WCC Facebook page, www.ci.wilton.nh/communitycenter.org (← just cut & paste this one to your browser) or your local media. Those of all ages, backgrounds, educational levels and interests are warmly invited to this free event.

What’s That Fabulous Aroma?

In addition to our friends at Hilltop Café and Wilton House of Pizza, we’d like to welcome three new palate pleasers that offer Wilton good reasons to skip the homemade meal (for at least one night) and head out to sample new taste bud ticklers. Jorge Arrunategui opened **Sky Bridge Café** at 10 Main Street in May and uses the freshest ingredients for serving up the international dishes he has worked with throughout his career – his famous huge platter Paella, traditional burritos, handcrafted beverages and more. All are invited to the Tapas Bar on Friday and Saturday evenings and a viewing of Jorge’s own artwork. Visit him at www.skybridgecafe.com/ to learn more. **Gary’s Harvest** was an institution in West Wilton for almost 40 years. Now Gary’s son, Kirk Burelle and a crew of family and friends affiliated with the original have just opened their new restaurant with the familiar name at 35 Main Street. They’re serving breakfast and lunch till 2p.m. Opened just one week and already drawing appreciative crowds, enjoy a traditional taste again, just like the good old days. www.facebook.com/garysharvestonmain/ **Oliver’s Restaurant** on Route 101 in West Wilton is planning to open in December with Ed and Maggie Goss promising food that is “wholesome, fresh and homemade”. Their plan is to just start offering breakfast and lunch and perhaps expand their schedule in the future to include dinner.

What’s A Person To Do?

Hope you all know there’s a new space that opened in mid-September: the **Rise Up! Center for the Arts, Healing and Comm.Unity** in the Riverview Mill Building #30 in downtown Wilton. This place will serve as a nexus for folks to share their creative, healing and artistic gifts, be empowered, learn, heal and grow. Calling everyone – especially seniors who’d enjoy a chance to make new friends, talk and play board games: the Center offers a *free* weekly get together on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. There’s also a K-5 after school program. Check out the different classes available like yoga, self-defense & African drumming. Check out creator Nicole Colvin-Griffin’s website at: www.riseupcenter.org or call 603) 400-9006.

The Historical Society Divulges 'What's Happening on the Top Floor'

A wealth of fascinating pieces of history are awaiting the enquiring resident. Located on the top floor of the Wilton Library, (you know there's a lift to take you there, right?) the Historical Society houses a large collection of Revolutionary and Civil War relics, ladies' dresses and men's fine suits, quilts, old guns, farming implements, surveying instruments, and mementos from the famed Winter Carnival. Visitors have been treated to talks on how the hills of Wilton acquired their names, learned of some of Wilton's remarkable women, and the life of Charles Greeley Abbot, an astrophysicist who served as the 5th Director of the Smithsonian Institution. A number of precious town documents are slowly being transcribed and available to the public. Volunteers to help with that effort are highly sought. And we'll lend a hand in genealogical searches. You're welcome to visit and join the Society. For more information contact historical@wiltonlibrarynh.org. In keeping with the holiday spirit, the Society will be holding its annual Holiday Party on December 8 at 7 p.m. All are cordially invited!

A Tip of the WCC Hat

Special thanks goes to **MD's Trash Removal** in Milford, for being part of our PR "team" by including WCC news in their quarterly invoices.

W.C.C. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP, CONTRIBUTION AND SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Membership and Its Benefits

If you haven't already signed up to be a member of the W.C.C. (and just because you're getting this delightful e-mail-stocking stuffer, doesn't mean you've paid your dues) remember membership is open to families and individuals (over 18) from Wilton and surrounding towns upon payment of a nominal annual Membership Fee. It's used to support basic operating expenses (and extravagant Island boondoggles for the Board). We trust you'll be fascinated enough to learn what's going on in town and become a member. Members over 18 have voting privileges at business meetings held the third Wednesday in the month, and may serve on the board of directors. *Participation in community activities is open to all.* Most activities are free; however paid members will receive a discount on programs and activities for which a registration fee may be charged.

Membership Form

✂*****Print out this page - cut here and return this portion to **PO Box 148, Wilton, NH 03086** *****

Membership/Donor name (individual) _____

Membership/Donor name (family) _____

Additional names: _____

Address: Street: _____ Town/City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Preferred contact: Phone #: _____ My address above ☐; or other address→ _____

Enclosed is payment for ☐ \$15 individual membership -- or ☐ \$25 family membership

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____. for programs for ☐ adults ☐ seniors ☐ children ☐ unrestricted

Please acknowledge this support as a gift from _____ or ☐ "Anonymous"

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____. Checks or money orders should be made payable to Wilton

Community Center. *Please don't send cash - especially rolls of pennies!*

Contribution Information

Wilton Community Center, EIN 46-1401331, has been granted Tax Exemption under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Gifts to the Wilton Community Center may be eligible for a tax deduction for those who itemize. Gifts may be restricted (used for a specific program) or unrestricted (used where needed most).